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(54) **FUEL ASSEMBLY AND SPACER FOR FUEL ASSEMBLY**

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(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain a fuel assembly and a spacer for the fuel assembly which enable improvement in the lowering of a D. O performance caused by occurrence of inclination of a flow rate in a channel due to deformation of a channel box associated with high burnup.

CONSTITUTION: A spacer 1 has cylindrical ring members 4 disposed in the shape of a matrix for holding fuel rods and a side plate 1a provided so as to surround the ring members 4. A curved part 2 is provided in a part of the side plate 1a having a gap from the ring member 4, and an opening 3 for taking in a coolant inside the spacer 1 is provided on the side (the upstream side of the coolant) of the curved part 2. It is also possible that the opening is provided in the side plate instead of curving the side plate 1a itself and that a curved member (of which the lower end is made open) is provided so that it covers this opening.

